

COMMEMORATIVE
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

OF THE

COUNTY OF YORK
ONTARIO

CONTAINING

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS
AND MANY OF THE EARLY SETTLED FAMILIES

ILLUSTRATED

TORONTO:
J. H. BEERS & CO.
1907

versity of Toronto, graduating as both gold and silver medalist. He then read law in Toronto, in which city he was a leading barrister before his death. In 1866 he married Henrietta Scadding, the only daughter of the late Rev. Canon Henry Scadding, D.D., a complete sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume. These children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan: Adelaide, widow of Overton McDonald, has two children, Adelaide Helen Grant and Robert Overton Grant; Henry Scadding is in the merchant marine service; Mabel, wife of W. R. Johnston, Jr., of Toronto, has one son, David Scadding.

In politics Mr. Sullivan was a Reformer. He was a member of the Church of England, to which Mrs. Sullivan also belongs.

WILLIAM T. BOYD, M.A., of No. 181 Bloor street east, is one of the oldest barristers of Toronto, and a member of a family long identified with the County of York. He is a son of Francis and Elizabeth (Smith) Boyd, the former of whom, born in England in 1787, died in Toronto in 1862, and the latter, born there in 1791, died in 1872. Francis Boyd came to Canada in 1835 to look over the new country. He returned to England and in 1837 brought his family to Canada, settling with several other retired officers of the Army and Navy near Richmond Hill. During the visit of Lord and Lady Elgin to this country they were hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Boyd at Brookside, their fine country home, near Richmond Hill. In politics Mr. Boyd was a Conservative, and in religion a member of the Church of England.

REV. WILLIAM H. WITHROW, M.A., D.D., F.R.S.C., of Toronto, is a descendant of an old Scotch family. His great-grandfather, John Withrow, was born in Virginia, and about 1733 came as a United Empire Loyalist to Nova Scotia, where he and two brothers received grants of land. One of his sons, John Withrow, was the grandfather of Rev. William H. Withrow.

John Withrow was born in Nova Scotia, and there carried on farming and died. His wife, whose maiden name was Whittier, and who was a relative of the Quaker poet, was born in Nova Scotia and died there; her mother was a United Empire Loyalist who came from South Carolina. The children of John Withrow and his wife were: James, John, Daniel, Jacob, Joseph, William, and six others.

James Withrow, father of Rev. Wm. H. Withrow, came to Canada in 1833, settling in "Muddy York," where he followed contracting and building. He also owned a lumber yard on the

site of the Grand Opera House, Adelaide street, Toronto. He was a guard at the city hall during the Rebellion of 1837-38. James Withrow married Miss Ellen Sanderson, a native of Ireland, and they had two sons, John and William H. Of these, John, who died in 1899, was a contractor of Toronto, for several terms alderman of the city, and for twenty years president of the Toronto Exhibition Board. He married Miss Margaret Foster, and they had children: Arthur, of Toronto; Percy, of Winnipeg; Norman, of Toronto; and Maude and Winnifred, of Toronto.

William H. Withrow was born on Bay street, Toronto, in 1839, and received his education at Toronto Academy, Victoria College and the Toronto University. Graduating from the latter in 1864 with the degree of B.A., he obtained the M.A. in 1865, and later the D.D. from Victoria College. Mr. Withrow then filled pastorates as follows: The East and West Methodist Churches at Montreal, one year; the Main Street Methodist Church of Hamilton, two years; Rice Lake, two years, as pastor of the Wesleyan Church; Davenport and Leslieville (near Toronto), two years; Old Niagara on the Lake, three years; Wesleyan College at Hamilton, one year, holding the chair of Classics and Philosophy. In 1874 he came to Toronto and became the editor of "The Methodist Magazine," and of the Sunday-school periodicals of the Methodist Church, in which work he is still engaged.

Mr. Withrow was married in 1864 to Sarah Ann Smith, who was born at Delhi, daughter of John Smith. Mrs. Withrow died in 1901, leaving children as follows: William James, of Ottawa, examiner of patents, married Mamie Burns, and they have one son, Wilfred; Ellen Rachel, married E. H. Stafford, M.D., of Toronto, and has five children, Ethelbert, Helen, Emerson, Margery and Gwendoline; Miss Florence; John Frederick, examiner of patents, Ottawa, married Ida Harvey, of Toronto.

In politics Mr. Withrow is a Reformer. He is the author of many valuable works, and his extended travels, which have carried him to every continent of the globe, and to every State in the United States with the exception of South Carolina, have greatly aided him in his literary work. Among his books are "The Catacombs of Rome," which reached six editions in Britain and a wide circulation in the United States and Canada; a "History of Canada" in a large octavo and two others in condensed form; a series of historical stories—"Valeria, a Tale of Ancient Rome," which has been translated into German; "Barbara Heck," "Neville Trueman," "Lawrence Temple," "Life in a Parsonage"; also "The Native Races of America," "China and Its Peo-

ple," "Our Own Country," and "A Canadian in Europe," books of travel, and other works. He is a member of the Board of Regents and of the Senate of Victoria University, Toronto; of the Senate of Wesleyan Theological College, Montreal; and Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He has personally conducted successive parties of nearly three hundred persons in all to and through Europe, and took one party eight hundred miles up the Nile, through Palestine, Syria and Turkey.

HENRY FRANCIS SEFTON. The death of Henry Francis Sefton, of Toronto, in his eighty-third year, May 21, 1892, deprived the musical circles of the city of one of their most gifted members, and the one to whom, more than to any other individual, was due the gratifying development of music in the Queen City. Mr. Sefton's special sphere was vocal music, and he was a gifted singer, the quality of his voice and his method of using it being unusually pleasing. He was talented as a composer and a leader of choral societies, while in his work as director of music in Toronto's schools—normal, model and public—he achieved splendid results.

Henry Francis Sefton was born in the city of Worcester, England, in 1809, son of Francis Sefton, of the same city. He received a thorough education along both literary and musical lines, and early in life took a prominent place in the musical circles of his native city. He took part for many years in the celebrated musical festivals held in the Cathedrals of Worcester, Gloucester and Hereford. In 1851 Mr. Sefton sang in the great Handelian Festival held in the city of London, England, under the patronage of the late Queen Victoria, and he was presented a commemorative medal of the event. He continued his work in England until 1858, in which year the late Dr. Ryerson, the father of the educational system in Canada, arranged, during a visit to London, to secure Mr. Sefton's services as Professor of Music in the Toronto normal and model schools, and from that time the latter was identified with the development of music in this city and other towns of Ontario.

From 1858 to 1883 Mr. Sefton gave of his best to Toronto, in the latter year retiring from active work. In addition to his work as teacher in the schools he compiled a system of exercises and song book. In 1860, when the then Prince of Wales, now King Edward VII., visited Toronto, Mr. Sefton conducted the musical programme for the occasion. While he left his mark most indelibly, perhaps, upon the musical development of the schools, he was also closely connected with that side of church work in the city, thus becoming known in a variety of circles, and

extending his influence over a sphere much larger than was realized during his modest, unostentatious life. He was universally liked and esteemed, and won for himself a high place in the regard of the citizens of Toronto. He was faithful, painstaking and truly musical in spirit; his influence was far-reaching in its character, and its value can hardly be estimated.

Mr. Sefton was survived by his wife, one son, and six daughters. Mrs. Sefton passed away in the eighty-eighth year of her age, Feb. 11, 1906.

JOHN SMALL, an ex-member of Parliament and the collector of customs at Toronto, belongs to one of the old families which took part in the founding of this beautiful and thriving city.

The Small family is of English extraction, and was founded in Canada by one Major Small, our subject's grandfather, a military man who came out from England with Governor Simcoe about 1791 as clerk of the Executive Council and clerk of the Crown and Pleas, and settled on the corner of King and Berkeley streets. In many ways he was a man of note. He retired from the duties of clerk of the Crown and Pleas at his own request, on the appointment by Lord Bathurst of his son, Charles C. Small, to fill his place, but continued in the former capacity. His death took place in 1831. He is represented as having been a man who never flinched from what he believed to be his duty and held himself ready, at all times, to settle disputes according to the "code of honor." One occasion is recalled when he and Attorney-General White sought to settle a controversy thus, the duel resulting in the death of Mr. White. Major Small was arrested as was usual in such cases, but this was but a form, and later he was fully acquitted.

Major Small married Miss Eliza Goldsmith, a native of the County of Kent, England. She died at Toronto about 1834. In their religious connection they were members of the Church of England. Their children were: John, who served in the Peninsular wars, was taken prisoner but escaped only to die on his way to Canada; James Edward, who was one of the distinguished men of Canada, serving as solicitor-general under Lord Metcalf, and later as a judge in County Middlesex, where he died; and Charles C., father of our subject.

Charles C. Small was born in 1800, in Toronto, and died in the same city March 17, 1864. In 1825 he succeeded his father to the office of clerk of the Crown and Pleas, a position he held until his death. In addition to his official duties he was interested in farming and live stock, owning a valuable farm of 500 acres in Lots 6, 7 and 8, York township, where he enjoyed all kinds of

he now occupies, near Fergus. He devotes himself to looking after his investments. He married Susan Stacy, who is also living, and two sons were born to this union: Dr. Thomas Shaw, our subject; and Henry Bailey, once a well-known breeder of Durham cattle, now a dealer in real estate in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Dr. Thomas Shaw Webster was born at Fergus in 1857, was educated there in the public and high schools, and in time became principal of the Fergus public school. He then began preparation for his profession, graduating from Victoria University and completing his medical course at the University of Toronto in 1889. During his medical course Dr. Webster engaged for one year in the practice of his profession at French River, and then settled in Toronto, where he has been engaged in a large practice since 1891. In 1903 the Doctor erected his very pleasant home and office at No. 581 Spadina avenue, in which immediate locality he has been located since 1894.

In 1890 Dr. Webster and Miss Georgiana Ross McIntosh were united in marriage, she being a daughter of Daniel McIntosh, a resident of Toronto and for many years a well-known wholesale merchant of the Queen City. To Dr. and Mrs. Webster have been born two children, Isabel McLean and Henry Fergus Ross.

Dr. Webster is a member of the Canadian Medical Association, the Ontario Medical Association and the Toronto Medical Society. He is gynaecologist to the Western Hospital of Toronto. In politics the Doctor is a Conservative. Socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, the C.O.F. and S.O.E.

HON. EDWIN N. GUNSAULUS, Consul of the United States of America at Toronto, was born in Knox county, Ohio, son of the late Calvin Gunsaulus, M.D., a native of the State of New York, and for many years a noted medical practitioner of the Buckeye State. After a long and successful medical career Dr. Gunsaulus passed away, Jan. 15, 1904.

Hon. Edwin N. Gunsaulus received his education at Mt. Vernon and Mt. Gilead, Ohio, after which he served an apprenticeship to the newspaper business at Mt. Gilead. In 1887 Mr. Gunsaulus settled in London, Ohio, where for about twelve years he was editor of the *London Times*, the leading Republican newspaper of that place. In the capacity of editor of this publication Mr. Gunsaulus rendered his party very efficient service and became very prominently identified with the local, State and national organizations. On different occasions he was a delegate to the State and national conventions of the Republican party, in the work of which he took a prominent

part. Mr. Gunsaulus's public career began when he was elected mayor of Centerburg, Ohio, which position he resigned to become editor of the paper above mentioned. On Feb. 1, 1900, the late President McKinley appointed Mr. Gunsaulus United States Consul to Pernambuco, Brazil, South America, which position he ably filled until Nov. 13, 1901, when President Roosevelt appointed him consul to Toronto. The history of the Republican party of the United States contains a full record of Mr. Gunsaulus's work in connection therewith. Mr. Gunsaulus is a cousin of the Rev. Frank W. Gunsaulus, the well-known president of the Armour Institute, Chicago.

DR. F. H. TORRINGTON. Dr. Torrington's name is so well known throughout Canada and the United States, and his identification with the musical resources of Canada has been so marked, that a mere record of his active work is a sufficient indication of the position he holds in the musical world.

Dr. Torrington was born in Dudley, Worcestershire, England. At seven years of age he gave evidence of marked ability in playing the violin, and was placed by his parents under the care of competent musical instructors in Birmingham. Afterwards, he was articled for four years to James Fitzgerald, Cathedral organist of St. George's and St. Mary's, at Kidderminster, subsequently becoming organist and choirmaster of St. Ann's Church, Bewdley.

After a successful career in England Dr. Torrington came to Canada, and was engaged in Montreal as organist of Great St. James' Street Methodist Church, which position he occupied for twelve years. He then removed to Boston, Massachusetts, having been appointed organist and musical director of King's Chapel, which position he left in 1873 for the one he now holds, in the Metropolitan Church of Toronto. Upon his arrival in Toronto, he accepted the conductorship of the Toronto Philharmonic Society. While residing in Boston he was conductor, in association with Carl Zerrahn and P. S. Gilmore, of the mass rehearsals of the great chorus of the last Boston Jubilee, as well as being conductor of a number of musical societies. He was also professor of piano and solo organist at the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, Massachusetts; first violinist of the Harvard Symphony Orchestra; solo organist at Boston Music Hall; and solo organist at Plymouth (Henry Ward Beecher's) Church, Brooklyn, New York. His experience as organist at King's Chapel, and professor of piano at the New England Conservatory of Music, and as conductor of orchestral and vocal societies, together with his train-

ing as a cathedral organist and choirmaster, and his ability as a violinist, eminently fitted him for the work he has accomplished in Toronto.

Thus Dr. Torrington's name is the synonym for leadership and experience in everything musical in Canada. The value of his teaching is commensurate with his reputation. He strives assiduously to impart to his pupils correct methods, and to place before them every legitimate aid in acquiring a thorough, modern musical education. A special feature of his work is the training of advanced pianists and vocalists for professional work. Provision is made for the public appearance of such, with full orchestral accompaniment; opportunities are also offered for those duly qualified to appear in oratorio, and in church concerts. Among the many vocal pupils of Dr. Torrington, who have attained distinction, special mention may be made of Miss Eileen Millett.

To Dr. Torrington is due the conception of establishing musical festivals in Toronto. The first took place in June, 1886, with 1,000 voices in the chorus, and 100 performers in the orchestra, at which he conducted the great oratorios, "Israel in Egypt" (Handel) and Gounod's "Mors et Vita," the miscellaneous programmes including the overtures to "Tannhäuser" (Wagner), "Ruy Blas" (Marchetti), "William Tell" (Rossini), and "Oberon" (Weber), etc. Dr. Torrington also conducted the Festival given at the inauguration of the new Massey Music Hall, in June, 1895, and the Jubilee performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio "Elijah," given at Massey Hall in November, 1896. He was engaged to train the large chorus and orchestra for the reception to the Duke and Duchess of York in Toronto, in October, 1901, and was associate conductor with Sir Alexander Mackenzie, President and Director of the Royal Academy of Music, London, England, for the Cycle of Musical Festivals inaugurated by C. A. E. Harriss, Mus. Bac. (Un. Tor.), held April 16-17-18, 1903, in Toronto. On June 13, 1902, the degree of Doctor of Music (Mus. Doc.) was conferred upon Dr. Torrington by the University of Toronto, in recognition of the valuable services he had rendered to the cause of music in Toronto during the past twenty-nine years.

Some years ago Dr. Torrington made an extended tour through Europe in the interests of the Toronto College of Music, visiting the Leipzig Conservatorium and Gewandhaus; the Hoch (Joachim) School of Music, Berlin; the Wagner Festival at Bayreuth; the Royal Academy of Music, London; the Royal College of Music, London; and the College of Organists, London. He was also most cordially received by Sir John Stainer, Professor of Music, Oxford University;

Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Royal Academy; Sir Frederick Bridge, Westminster Abbey, and Professor Gresham College; Dr. W. H. Cummings, of the Guild Hall School of Music; Dr. Turpin, College of Organists; and in Leipzig by Herr Jadassohn and Herr Knause, and other eminent musicians. It is very satisfactory to find that the strongest features of these various schools of music are incorporated in the scheme adopted as the basis of the work of the Toronto College of Music.

The Toronto College of Music is justly entitled to rank as one of the most advanced institutions of its kind in Canada, not only from the character of its general work, but because on several most important lines of musical education it bears more than favorable comparison with the most eminent musical schools of Europe and America. Founded by Dr. Torrington in 1888, incorporated by Government in 1890, the first musical institution recognized by affiliation with the University of Toronto, the Toronto College of Music has, from its inception, proved to be a prosperous and ever-increasing effective agency for musical development in the Dominion. The amount of its capital is placed at \$50,000. The charter granted by Government gives power for the fullest development in the art and science of Music, together with control of lands, buildings and appliances necessary thereto.

Graduates of the Toronto College of Music are afforded the highest Toronto University advantages, being exempted from all examinations, except the third or final, for the degree of Bachelor of Music. The faculty of the Toronto College of Music has, from the opening, consisted of the most prominent and experienced executive and theoretical musicians, representing the best methods of Germany, France, Russia, Italy, England and America. Students have thus been drawn to the College from all parts of Canada and the United States, and its examinations in music are sought throughout the Dominion of Canada. Amongst those who have taken both the Theory and Practical examinations are the daughters of the Governor-General of Canada (Lord Minto and the Countess of Minto), the Ladies Ruby and Violet Elliot.

The equipment of the College is complete in every department, and unusual facilities are provided for the most thorough all-round musical education, including two of the largest and most complete three-manual and four-manual modern organs; orchestra under Dr. Torrington's personal direction; choir and oratorio chorus training, notably in the Toronto Festival chorus and the Metropolitan Church choir; and special opportunities for introduction in concert, oratorio and church work, together with

every up-to-date means calculated to educate musicians on broad lines. Vocal and instrumental graduates are brought out with full orchestral accompaniment, conducted by Dr. Torrington. Practical testimony to the efficacy and value of Toronto College of Music training is accorded through the fact that its vocal, instrumental and theory graduates are being constantly sought to fill important positions as teachers, organists, choir directors, and as soloists for concerts and church engagements.

Through the generosity of Mrs. Massey Treble—patron of the Toronto College of Music—one of the finest organs in the world has been placed in the Metropolitan Church, of which Dr. Torrington is organist and choir director. This organ, the specifications of which were prepared by Dr. Torrington and Mr. Lemare, has electric pneumatic action, four manuals, seventy-seven stops, and all modern appliances, including a complete chime of bells. The pedal board, the first of its kind in use in Canada, is termed concave and radiating, and is the scale adopted by the American Guild of Organists. The organ was built by Messrs. Karn-Warren, Woodstock, the whole construction being designed and carried out under the personal direction of Mr. C. S. Warren. On March 9, 1904, the organ was formally opened, when the Toronto Festival chorus sang Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise," under the direction of Dr. F. H. Torrington, and on which occasion he displayed the beauties of the organ in a brief recital. Mr. Edwin H. Lemare, the celebrated English organist, gave a recital on March 10th, and pronounced it the finest instrument on the continent. The main organ stands behind the pulpit, with auxiliary organs on each side, the solo and echo organ being placed at the opposite end of the church, all being connected by pneumatic tubing and electric cables laid beneath the flooring.

REV. WILLIAM REID, D.D. The late Dr. William Reid, of Toronto, was a man whose entire life was devoted to the work of the Christian ministry, in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada. For more than fifty years he took a leading part in the work of this church, and was widely known throughout the Dominion. Full of charity and good-will, he had numerous friends, while his sound judgment and sterling character won him a place in the front rank of church leaders.

Dr. Reid was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, in 1816, and in his native country was well prepared for his work as a minister. In 1839 he came to Canada, and in 1840 was settled at Grafton, Ont., as his first pastorate. Here he remained until 1849, when he accepted

a call to Picton, and there served until 1853. At this time he removed to Toronto to become agent for the then Canada Presbyterian Church, an office which he held, amid the various changes in the constitution of the church, until his death in January, 1896.

In 1848 Dr. Reid married Miss Mary Ann Harriett Street, daughter of William and Mary Ann (Porter) Street. William Street was born in England in 1779, and died in 1834, while his wife, born in 1781, passed away in 1864. In 1832 they came to Canada, and after living at Niagara Falls for a short time went to Ancaster, where Mr. Street died. Mrs. Reid was born in Devonshire, England, in 1820, and, after a long and useful life, died in 1905, having resided for forty-nine years in the same immediate vicinity on Bloor street east, Toronto. Dr. and Mrs. Reid were the parents of four sons and four daughters, of whom two sons and three daughters survive.

DR. W. J. CHARLTON, of Weston, Ont., is known throughout his community both as a physician and surgeon of skill, and as a prominent public man. He was born on the 4th Concession of York township, son of John and Mary (Bull) Charlton, the former born in Cumberland, England, in July, 1807, and the latter in County York, Ont., in March, 1817.

On coming to Canada Mr. and Mrs. Charlton settled in Toronto, but later located on the 4th Concession of York township, remaining there until their removal to Weston. At the latter place Mr. Charlton died in 1893, and his wife survived him ten years, passing away in the faith of the Methodist Church, of which he was an adherent. In politics he was a Conservative. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Charlton: Edward, a merchant of San Francisco, California, where he was a sufferer during the earthquake in that city, losing all his property; John, an orange-grower of Los Angeles, California; Thomas, of Toronto; Robert, a farmer of Meadowdale, Ont.; Albert, construction engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Winnipeg (is married and has a family); Mrs. G. C. Moore, of Oakville; Mrs. A. C. Atwood, of London, Ont., and Dr. W. J.

W. J. Charlton was reared on the home farm in York township, and received his education in the public schools and the Streetsville high school. In 1880 he entered the Toronto University, and graduated from that institution in 1883, after which he spent one and one-half years as resident house surgeon in the Toronto General Hospital, at the end of this time locating in Weston village, and first settled on Main street. He erected a fine brick home on North



The **Margaret Eaton School Digital Collection** is a not-for-profit resource created in 2014-2015 to assist scholars, researchers, educators, and students to discover the Margaret Eaton School archives housed in the Peter Turkstra Library at Redeemer University College. Copyright of the digital images is the property of Redeemer University College, Ancaster, Canada and the images may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email digital images for individual non-commercial use. To learn more about this project or to search the digital collection, go to <http://libguides.redeemer.ca/mes>.